Hand-held Underwater Power Tools

Hand-held equipment and power tools should be inspected prior to each use and maintained in a safe operating condition.

Electrical tools and equipment used underwater should be specifically approved for this purpose.

Electrical tools and equipment supplied with power from the surface should be de-energized before being placed into or retrieved from the water.

Handheld power tools should not be supplied with power from the dive location until requested by the diver.

Cutting Tool

Each diver should have a cutting tool, knife, wire cutters or EMT scissors (cutting shears) as appropriate. An alternate cutting tool secured in a different location on the diver is recommended.

Dive Light

Each diver should have a functional underwater light for use on night or low visibility dives. A backup light is recommended.

Termination of Dive

If conditions or an incident occurs that may jeopardize the health or safety of a diver, diving operations should be stopped and the diver(s) should immediately exit the water.

A dive should be terminated when:

- Any dive team member request termination;
- A diver fails to respond correctly to communications or signals from a dive team member;
- Communications are lost and cannot be quickly re-established between the diver and a dive team member at the dive location, and between the designated person-in-charge and the boat operator controlling the vessel in liveboating operations;
- A diver begins to use diver-carried reserve breathing air or the dive-location reserve breathing air;
- A breach of personal protective equipment; or
- Diving conditions degrade, e.g., thunderstorms.



Terminating dive